

STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING
March 17, 2016
Ramada Lansing Hotel and Conference Center
7501 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing, MI 48917

MINUTES

Call to Order: Commissioner Michael Sheehan called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Roll Call: Gloria Lanum called the roll and a quorum was present.

Present: Commissioner Michael Sheehan, Chairperson, John Murphy, Vice-Chairperson, Regina Allen, Alan Bond, Vicente Castellanos, Dave Caudle, Charles Corwin, Kathleen Earle, Sandra Falk-Michaels, Thomas Hartwig, Elizabeth Ireland-Curtis, Kathleen Johnston-Calati, Mary Jones, Victoria Laupp, Nicolette McClure, Gerald McCole, Roy Pentilla, Angie Perone, Gene Pisha, Mary Lou Proefrock, Patricia Rencher, Linda Strohl, Terry Vear, Susan Vick, Wendy White, Kathleen Williams-Newell, Ginny Wood-Broderick, John Zimmerman, and Ex-Officio Members: Robyn Ford and Elizabeth Thompson

Excused: Nellie Blue, Kellie Boyd, Georgia Durga, Lois Hitchcock, Pamela McKenna, Perry Ohren, Jean Peters, Donald Ryan, Mona Sashital, Gary Scholten

Resigned: Barbara Leo

Guest: Eric Grider

Aging and Adult Services Agency (AASA) Staff present: Kari Sederburg, Richard Kline, Gloria Lanum, Lauren Swanson-Aprill, and Scott Wamsley

Agenda: The State Advisory Council (SAC) approved the agenda as presented.

Minutes: The SAC approved the October 22, 2015, minutes.

Introduction of AASA Deputy Director: Scott Wamsely, Division Director, Technical Assistance Support and Compliance (TASC) Division introduced Richard Kline to the State Advisory Council (SAC) on Aging. Richard will be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the agency and will play a critical role on the agency's leadership team. He will also be responsible for the management and development of statewide aging and adult service programs. Richard has more than 24 years of experience in the health care industry, with 18 of those years working with older adults in a variety of roles and settings.

Richard provided further information about his background. Prior to AASA he served as executive director of the Beztak Corporation, managing the day-to-day operations, including program development, for a 144-unit senior living community in Rochester Hills, Michigan.

Before his time at Beztak he served as the executive director at Covenant Village of the Great Lakes, a Covenant Retirement Community, in Grand Rapids, Michigan. His responsibilities included the management of a 300-unit continuum of care retirement community that offered residents independent living, assisted living, short-term medical and rehabilitative care, memory loss and dementia care, and home health care services.

Richard earned his master's degree in healthcare administration from Grand Valley State University, and his bachelor's degree in food systems economics and management from Michigan State University. His community service activities include having served as a state board member and board director for LeadingAge Michigan, and he serves as a member of the advisory council for the School of Public and Non-profit Administration at Grand Valley State University. He resides in Grand Rapids with his family.

Old Business:

Commission Report: Commissioner Sheehan provided the Commission on Services to the Aging (CSA) January 15, 2016, meeting report:

AASA and the Valley Area Agency on Aging have been working very hard to support older adults in Flint due to the water crisis. AASA staff members Dawn Velianoff resigned to take a new job with the Michigan Veteran Affairs Agency and Dianna Evans resigned to take a new position with the Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council. It is anticipated that the proposed AASA FY 2017 budget will neither gain nor lose funding for current older adult services. The Michigan Secretary of State's office released a new driver website that includes important resources for older drivers, family and friends and professionals who provide supports and services. www.michigan.gov/agingdriver. Harbor Country located in southwest Michigan was approved to receive a designation as a *Community for a Life Time*.

The CSA **approved** the following business items:

- a) Request for Approval of the Harbor Country Application for Community For a Lifetime (CFL) Recognition** *Presented by Dan Doezeema, AASA Staff* - The review panel cited exceptional collaboration, a large number of seniors on municipal boards and committees, a large pool of talent that has migrated to the community, socio-economic diversity, and plentiful hiking and biking trails.
- b) Request for Approval of Title VII-A Federal Ombudsman Funding** *Presented by Sarah Slocum, AASA Staff* - Title VII-A Federal Ombudsman funding in the amount of \$140,000 is available for AAAs to use for local long-term care ombudsman functions.
- c) Request for Approval of Local Long Term Care Ombudsman Mentoring and Training** *Presented by Sarah Slocum, AASA Staff* - Federal Title VII-A grant in the amount of \$15,000 is available to bidders to mentor and train ombudsmen.
- d) Request for Approval of Revisions to State Long Term Care Ombudsman (SLTCO) Policies and Procedures** *Presented by Sarah Slocum, AASA Staff* - Federal

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Title VII-A in the amount of \$10,000 is available to bidders to review and revise as necessary SLTCO policies and procedures to comply with new federal regulations.

New Business:

SAC Member Responsibilities: Chairperson Sheehan provided a brief review of SAC Member responsibilities.

Conference Call/Meeting Preparation: Chairperson Sheehan reviewed the SAC member attendance policy as outlined in the SAC's bylaws: SAC members are allowed two excused absences from face-to-face meetings and four excused absences from SAC workgroup conference calls.

2016 SAC Member Application and Instructions: Lauren Swanson-Aprill reviewed the SAC member application and instructions with the SAC. Applications may be submitted to Lauren via email, fax or U.S. Mail by COB **Friday, April 1, 2016**.

Member Recognition: Lauren recognized two SAC members who have chosen to move on to other volunteer activities in their respective regions. Elizabeth Curtis-Ireland served on the SAC for three years. Lauren also recognized Eugene Pisha for actively serving on the SAC for 13 years and acknowledged his many contributions to the SAC especially regarding veterans' issues. They will both be missed by the SAC.

Nomination Process for Next SAC Vice-Chairperson: John Murphy, SAC Vice-chairperson, reviewed the SAC vice-chairperson nomination, election process and the time commitment with the SAC. The SAC vice-chairperson is elected at the June meeting every year and may serve for a term of two years, whether consecutive or non-consecutive. John urged members to consider submitting an application or nominating members. When nominating SAC members, the nominator must confer with the individual first before submitting their name for consideration. Submittal of SAC Vice-Chairperson Applications and/or nominations with applications is due by **Friday, April 29, 2016**.

Aging and Adult Services Agency (AASA) Director's Report: Kari Sederburg Report:

- The Valley Area Agency on Aging (AAA) continues to deliver water and filters to older adults living in the Flint area and Kari recognized the exemplary efforts of this AAA and the aging network in working to support Flint's older adults. AASA continues its support of the Valley AAA and its older adults.
- Kari provided testimony to both the House and the Senate on the AASA FY 2017 proposed budget in early March. The Governor proposed no cuts and no increases to the AASA budget. There were some recommended increases in the proposed FY 2017 Medicaid budget for the Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) expansion and MI Choice Waiver. There was also an increase in the nursing home budget even though the occupancy rate has decreased.

- During the merger of forming the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), the Adult Services staff who cover adult protective services, adult services and home help moved to AASA, but their field staff did not move, which Kari is addressing. She has also been meeting with the new Medicaid director Mr. Chris Priest on strategic planning for the MI Choice Waiver program.
- The issue of Medicaid reimbursement rates being too low for MI Choice Waiver agencies to pay increased wages to direct care workers (DCWs)/ personal care aides was discussed and a Medicaid workgroup has been formed to study the issue.

Discussion: **Scott Wamsley** reviewed the role of AASA and the TASC Division in following the flow of federal funding to Michigan for older adult services and administration of the funds. The TASC Division provides assessments and financial monitoring of the agencies that receive funding from AASA. The National Aging Programs Information System (NAPIS) is used by AASA and the aging network to maintain service data which is used to explain our work in providing supports and services to older adults. SAC members explained that several areas of the state fundraise to supplement their home delivered meals programs in order to reduce their waiting lists. Many counties (63 out of 83) have senior millages that support senior services. The senior millages are capped at 1 mill and are not able to ask for more. Legislation needs to be passed to allow communities to request higher millages. Wayne County does not have a senior millage, but has a very large senior population. Members urged the SAC and the Commission to advocate with the Legislature and the Governor regarding services.

SAC Direct Care Workforce Workgroup Reports:

Transportation: **Angie Perone (Lead)** and **John Murphy** provided an update on their workgroup's research on this issue and explained that the workgroup decided to focus its attention on transportation and table researching child/family care issues.

Marketing: **Wendy White (Lead)** explained the research completed by this workgroup and the importance of positively marketing DCWs. Wendy also reviewed a main recommendation to promote saving for home care with a possible tax deductible savings program.

Interdisciplinary Workgroup: **Linda Strohl (Lead)** outlined the importance of including the DCW and person being supported as part of the interdisciplinary team. She further explained that the interdisciplinary team may include different health professionals and aging service providers such as meals on wheels drivers depending on the individual's needs.

Training Operations: **Kathleen Earle (LEAD) and Lauren Swanson-Aprill** reviewed several recommendations especially the need to form public/private relationships to train instructors/trainers to provide the Building Training...Building Quality (BTBQ) training program consistently statewide. The BTBQ is being revised and in the future the BTBQ instructor/trainer training will be revised and an oversight structure recommended.

Next Steps: **Chairperson Sheehan** urged the workgroups to check for duplication of their reports and recommendations in the afternoon workgroup meetings. **Lauren and John** plan to work on the report and will share a draft with the SAC for their review when it's ready in the next few weeks.

Workgroup meetings: The four workgroups met in the afternoon and continued to refine their recommendations.

Next Meeting: Joint CSA and SAC meeting
Friday, April 15, 2016, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.,
Ramada Lansing Hotel and Conference Center
(A public hearing will be held at 1:00 p.m.)

Commissioner Sheehan adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m.